FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 MAY 1985

Lebanon

The army of southern Lebanon (ASL) repulsed attacks by Muslim forces at Kfar Falus, between Sidon and Jazzin, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, adding that 50 people were killed in the fighting. An Amal movement statement broadcast by Beirut radio spoke of "fierce battles" around the barracks in Kfar Falus held by the ASL. Meanwhile, clashes continued across the Muslim-Christian contact lines in Beirut despite cease-fire attempts, the radio noted.

Regarding a solution to the fighting, the Lebanese Army command has agreed to a comprehensive plan proposed by Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, according to Beirut radio. The plan stipulates that the Army will reassume control of the coastal road through the Al-Kharrub region; it will be responsible for the Jazzin area following the ASL's withdrawal; inhabitants displaced in the recent fighting can return; and fighting should cease in Beirut. However, Lebanese Forces Chief of Staff Samir Ja'ja' had earlier warned that a "very high price" will be paid for the bloodshed as the Phalangists will withdraw their "outstretched hand" to pick up their rifles, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

In a separate development, a PLO statement broadcast by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio expressed anxiety over the arrival of "Syrian special forces" in Beirut to "tighten control over the besieged Palestinian refugee camps" and perpetrate "new massacres that have been preplanned in Damascus."

Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army leader Colonel John Garang "is waging war at the instigation of the Soviet Union and in coordination with Libya and Ethiopia," Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad told London's *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in an interview during his tour of the Gulf region. He added that a high-level delegation will go to the Soviet Union to break the "isolation" created by the previous regime. Meanwhile, monitored Egyptian media have not confirmed a Doha press report cited by QNA that Egypt promised Sudan that former President Ja'far Numayri will not be allowed to leave the country.

Libya

Iraq is planning to carry out acts of terrorism against Libyan and Syrian targets in a number of Arab and European capitals, JANA announced. The Libyan report, which cited "informed sources" in West Berlin, follows the 26 April bomb attacks on a Syrian diplomat and a Libyan airline office in Geneva, as reported by AFP.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by Baghdad radio announced that the Air Force accurately hit a "large maritime target" near Khark Island 1 May. Meanwhile, Lufthansa airlines resumed its flights to Baghdad, but those to Tehran are still suspended, Hamburg DPA stated.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA Government rejected the "false allegations" that its aircraft violated Pakistani air space on 25 and 26 April, Kabul radio stated. However, the Pakistani Foreign Ministry lodged another protest with the Afghan charge d'affaires for a 29 April air space violation, Karachi radio noted.

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Karmal Speech to Grand Tribal Assembly 23 April
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[Speech by Babrak Karmal, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to Grand Tribal Assembly in Kabul on 23 April — recorded]

[Text] Esteemed delegates of the Grand Tribal Assembly, the Grand Tribal Assembly of the noble people of Afghanistan; sisters, brothers, and dear compatriots:

We are living the most important and sensitive moments of the revolutionary times in the national and proud history of our country, heroic Afghanistan. They will be recalled with pride and honor by future generations. In accordance with the will of the noble and toiling people of Afghanistan, in fulfillment of our commitments, and with respect for the lofty national tribal assembly tradition, today we invited chiefs, elders, representatives of the workers, credible personalities of all nationalities, and fraternal tribes of the country, to convene the traditional Grand Tribal Assembly in following the custom of our fathers and ancestors, and to make courageous, historic, and explicit decisions on the most vital issues for our country, our independent country. [Applause]

In the Grand Tribal Assembly, that is to say, the present grand assembly, which has unbreakable links with the destiny and future of the homeland, revolution, and people of Afghanistan, the sons are gathered here of those heroes who fought with courage in the defense of the country, safeguarding the national honor, freedom, and independence in moments of life and death, moments that determine future destiny, and who figure proudly in the epics of our national history.

Our people rightly say that our country is the country of tribal assemblies. Tribal assemblies, which mean consultation and joint decision for the solution of crucial historic issues, were, are, and will be the long-lasting tradition of the Afghan people. [Applause] Tribal assemblies have always been the manifestation of our society's laudable cultural, national, democratic, and historical traditions and are in complete accord with the sacred religion of Islam. [Applause] The people of Afghanistan are succeeding in the progressive growth and evolution of the tribal assemblies into the highest levels of true democracy, and are actively, consciously, and with complete responsibility participating in the life of the society and state. [Applause]

Grand tribal assemblies, in the contemporary history of Afghanistan have in different forms reflected the demands of the people of Afghanistan for the consolidation of the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and for progress and advancement, hatred of war and fascism, strengthening of national defense, preservation of the policy of nonalignment and non-participation in aggressive military pacts, consolidation of friendship with neighboring countries, defense and support of the liberating movement of the fraternal Pashtun and Baluch people [applause], and the expansion of Afghan-Soviet relations. [Applause] Historical documents exist regarding all these. We are proud that the current policy of our revolutionary state, under the PDPA's leadership, is the creative and evolutionary continuation of the national-historic-patriotic decisions of historic tribal assemblies that meet the demands of time, as well as the aspirations and demands of the people of Afghanistan in the new conditions and with new revolutionary contents. [Applause] The Grand Tribal Assembly, which is being convened for the first time since the victory of the April Revolution in accordance with our laudable national traditions and customs, has greatly important and vital tasks before it.

The Grand Tribal Assembly will consider and study important and formidable issues in this stage of the country's history and revolution — issues that have unbreakable links with the future and destiny of the country, with the future of the revolution and people, with the future of the sons and future generations of the new society.

The DRA Revolutionary Council has convened the traditional Grand Tribal Assembly at a time when the April Revolution and our country resolutely and irreversibly follow the path to the peace, freedom, progress, tranquillity, and prosperity of human beings.

How can we make the people prosperous and the country blossom? This aim requires the will and awareness of the people and the decisions of the Grand Tribal Assembly will help us achieve this aspiration.

Our people and homeland have been faced with the aggression of imperialism and reaction and the undeclared anti-Afghan war of the Reagan administration and the reactionary governments of a number of neighboring countries that strive to make it even more cruel, bloody, and extensive. In this undeclared war, which has been imposed on us by imperialism and its allies, the issues at stake are the life and death, national independence, and freedom versus captivity of the Afghan people.

How can we finally and completely crush the armed counterrevolution exported from abroad and establish peace, tranquillity, security, and order in Afghanistan? How can we create the conditions for peaceful, fruitful, and constructive work everywhere all over the country? How can patriots of all provinces, nationalities, and tribes rise united against counterrevolutionary bands to secure the victory and national peace for which we have been waiting so long? The Grand Tribal Assembly of the representatives of the Afghan people has been convened to answer these questions, to take a common stance, and to consolidate the defense capabilities of the country and our just struggle against the enemies of Afghanistan, and to find speedy and successful solutions.

The issue is what should we do and how should we act so that the borders with Pakistan and Iran and other passages for the infiltration of arms for robbers, criminals, and terrorists, are no longer available and so that the enemies of the homeland are no longer able to illegally find their way deep into the country? The mobilizing will and the inspiring motivation of the Grand Tribal Assembly is necessary for this cause.

What can be done to see that the programs of the revolutionary authority on the country's socioeconomic development, in par-

ticular the development of districts, subdistricts, villages, remote localities, tribal regions, and improvement in the living standards of the Kochis [nomads], are implemented and that the workers of each locality take a major and direct part in this task? [Applause]

This task strongly requires the unified and conscious determination of Afghan people embodied in the Grand Tribal Assembly.

The present Grand Tribal Assembly is a decisive reply to those who fabricate tales about the April Revolution and the revolutionary authority and cunningly claim that the party order is not the order of the Afghan people. The present Grand Tribal Assembly is an invitation to all the country's people to defend the country and revolution and to secure a peaceful atmosphere to work and build the country, to secure the tranquility and prosperity of the present and future generations.

We must know who our friends are, those who can help us in building the prosperous future of the homeland and defending the independence and national sovereignty of the homeland. [Applause] We must identify and know who our enemies are, those who drag the people of the homeland into fire and blood, and prevent the peaceful life and work of our people, the freedom, prosperity and progress of our country. [Applause] It is the duty and national historic responsibility of the Grand Tribal Assembly to answer all these questions in an Afghan, revolutionary, and progressive manner. [Applause]

Esteemed delegates: The history of our homeland is full of anti-colonial patriotic and liberation wars. The courageous Afghan people are freedom-loving and patriotic, brave and dignified. [Applause] Whenever our homeland has been faced with danger, the best sons of the motherland, the sons of tribes and clans and fraternal nationalities in the country have gathered at the moments of life and death and, like a steely and shattering fist, have heroically defended the honor and national interests of the country against aggressors, interventionists, colonialists, and imperialists. [Applause] Three heroic liberating wars by our people against the colonialist English occupiers and also the struggles of constitutionalists and patriots against the dark despotism of monarchy are clear examples of the courageous struggle for the independence, freedom and progress, advancement, development, and social justice of our homeland.

In the history of revolutionary movement in our country, the formation of the PDPA constitutes one of the greatest turning points. A few days ago, the country's workers grandiously celebrated the PDPA's 20th anniversary. On 1 January 1965, the PDPA, as the pursuer and inheritor of the best traditions of the progressive and patriotic anti-reactionary, anti-imperialist, anti-oppression, and democratic struggles of our people, was founded. [Applause]

From the very beginning, the party has proved that it is a party of revolutionary thought and action, a patriotic and internationalist party. This party in our country was the sole party to realize that at the present historical phase a national democratic revolution was the only practical and correct way to overthrow the feudalist-monarchic, aristocratic-bureaucratic order, and open true prospects for victory for the people toward true national freedom and social progress. The path travelled by the PDPA has been the path of national historic victory of the workers against oppressors, exploiters, and imperialist colonialists and the path of travelling through difficult and turbulent ways of struggle and tests. [Applause] The history of the PDPA's struggles has been a history of loyalty to national and revolutionary aims based on the sacred principles of peace, democracy, freedom, national sovereignty, social justice, equality, fraternity, and all-around social progress.

By utilizing various forms of struggle and broad mobilization of activity among the people, the party played a fundamental role in toppling the monarchy. The overthrow of the monarchy took place exactly when the ruling reactionary monarchic circles, fearful of the enhancement and advancement of the patriotic, national, democratic, and revolutionary movement, had begun to collude with the darkest forces of the region and were seeking ways for the consolidation and survival of the decadent feudalistic-monarchic order. The monarchy, in collaboration with reaction, intended to strike a deal involving the waters and soil of our homeland. You remember that. In a similar way their unworthy families, that is, the past monarchic emirs, had committed treachery in a national matter concerning the land of the Afghans, the territory of Afghanistan, and had treacherously left a part of the territory of the Afghans to the English colonialists.

With the overthrow of the oppressive monarchic regime, the free and working people of Afghanistan were expecting that an end would be put to poverty, illiteracy and disease, bribery and embezzlement, unfairness and despotism, loot and plunder, injustices, oppression and centuries of backwardness, the sinister legacy of the decadent regimes of the past. The regime of Daud, fearful of the growth of the movement and the increased demands of the people, forgot his pledges to the homeland and people and chose the treacherous path of dealing with regional reaction and imperialism. In this way the rightful demands of the masses were not met. This matter provoked the profound dissatisfaction of various strata of the people against the government and the people were desirous of putting an end to this abnormal situation. The opportunities for the exploiters to build another power link among themselves, had ended. There were no longer any opportunities for them whatsoever.

The people of Afghanistan were waiting for a salvation force. The revolutionary change of the society and the direct transfer of power to the people was, and had become, the order of the day and the will of the people of Afghanistan. [Applause] The April Revolution, as a logical response to the historical and ever-increasing dissatisfaction of the people against despotism and arbitrariness and the reactionary policies of the anti-popular regimes, was brought to victory by the broadest strata and working classes of our society under the leadership of the PDPA. [Applause] Our revolution has set before it general democratic aims. Our revolution's major aims are to put an end to oppressive, exploitative feudalist and prefeudalist relations, the influence and intrigues of imperialism, to implement the democratic land and water reforms, the growth of national industries and all national economy; to enhance and raise the standard of living of the masses of the people; raise the national cultures of the peoples of Afghanistan to a new and progressive essence; democratize the sociopolitical life, and pursue a peaceful foreign policy.

The April Revolution in Afghanistan considers, observes, and respects the national historic characteristics of the people, the religious, cultural and traditional customs of the fraternal nationalities and tribes of our indescribable country. [Applause] We want to put an end to national inequality, which is the legacy of the past reactionary regimes, and to provide necessary conditions for the unity of all nationalities, tribes and clans on the basis of the equality of rights and complete participation in building a progressive, new and democratic revolutionary society.

The April Revolution in Afghanistan put an end forever to the despotic rule of the oppressive exploiters of the feudalist-aristocratic-monarchic order, usurers, corrupt and anti-national high-ranking state bureaucrats, who were continuing their parasitic life at the expense of the blood and suffering of the masses. [Applause] As a result, the people of Afghanistan were transformed into the true Sardars [lords] of the homeland. [Applause]

Our revolution has endured many ups and downs. This revolution was brought to victory in general backward social conditions, general mass illiteracy, the complex structure of the nationalities and tribes, the masses' low level of class awareness and lack of sufficient political experience. From the very first days our revolution was faced with difficult tests. In particular it was faced with the shameless, merciless and treacherous increasing interference and resistance of international imperialism and its servants in our internal affairs. They abused the toppled ruling circles and the deceived individuals.

Dealing with the people, the democratization of the country's socioeconomic life, the realization of socioeconomic changes and the solution of important sociopolitical questions such as the question of nationalities and tribes, the question of religion and belief, the question of traditions and customs, were coupled with mistakes, blunders and even serious deviations in the past state and party leadership. Everyone is aware that as a result most of the tasks, which had been set out in the fundamental lines of the revolutionary tasks of the DRA, went unfulfilled. The process of socioeconomic changes were delayed. The principled forces, true and loyal patriots of the PDPA, however, again became united and with united courageous and timely action on 27 December 1978 put an end to the dangerous trend of mistakes and deviations in the country's revolutionary process and to collusion with the reactionary and imperialist forces and conspiracy against the national interests. [Applause]

In this way our party resolutely rejected subjectivism, mistakes and deviations, adventurism, cult of personality, terror and oppression, undermining of democratic revolutionary legality and the vain efforts to overlook the necessary phases for the growth and evolution of the national democratic revolution. Despite the difficulties and obstacles created by the enemies, our people, through their heroic struggles, have achieved great victories.

The most important gain of the national democratic April Revolution is that for the first time in the history of the country, the new and revolutionary sovereignty of the people and workers has been created. [Applause] Based on that, a new political system and order was formed in the country. The PDPA is rightfully the central force that guides, leads, and organizes Afghan society, accepting every kind of self-sacrifice.

One of the gains of the April Revolution is the enforcement of the DRA's Basic Principles on the basis of which the sociopolitical and economic life of our society was set out and in which are guaranteed all democratic rights and freedoms of DRA citizens. On the basis of the DRA Basic Principles, all people of the country enjoy true democratic freedoms and rights. The DRA state guarantees to all citizens of the country the right to life, security, complete freedom for the performance of the rites of the sacred religion of Islam and the performance of religious rites to the followers of other religions, the right to work, the right to health protection and to social security, the right to education, the right to patriotic participation in democratic progressive social organizations within the framework of the country's tranquillity and security, the right to family protection, the right to private property and home, and the right to complain individually and collectively to the state organs. The DRA state safeguards the conditions required for the effective utilization of this and all democratic rights and freedoms of the people. [Applause]

The country's young working class is actively participating in all social and political affairs. The living conditions of the workers are improving every day and their leading role in society is evolving qualitively and quantitatively simultaneously with the growth of industries and mines in the country. With pride and honor, we point out that in the history of Afghanistan, the DRA is the first state that with the democratic land and water reforms, has distributed hundreds of thousands of hectares of land to hundreds of thousands peasant families free of charge. [Applause] In this way it has met the ancient and intense aspirations of the toiling Afghan peasants, and has provided and is providing them with the opportunities to utilize and reap the fruits of the land. [Applause] The consistent and complete implementation of the democratic land and water reform constitutes one of the main aims of our revolution. Putting an end to mistakes and subjectivism of the past in the implementation of the land and water reform, we are maintaining the active participation of peasants in the program through the creation of peasant councils, committees for the solution of water disputes, broadening the cooperative movement and giving financial, material, and technical assistance to the peasants so they can better exploit the land. [Applause]

Pay attention esteemed delegates, we are not speaking in order to deceive or gain votes of confidence like those in past regimes. What we say, in reliance on Almighty God and the will of the people of Afghanistan, we are accomplishing resolutely. [Applause] The Government of the DRA has constantly supplied sowing seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides to peasants and has put at their disposal mechanized agricultural stations and loans on easy terms.

In order to raise the standard of living of the country's peasants, the government has twice raised the price of cotton and sugarbeet and has brought about necessary reduction in the price of chemical fertilizer. As a result of the efforts of the revolutionary state, the level of primary agricultural production during 1983-84 in comparison with the level before the April Revolution was higher despite the undeclared war and the subversion of the

rebels. [Applause] The cooperative movement is being expanded as a new form of socioeconomic activity, in particular in the agricultural sphere. The peasants, through the creation of hundreds of peasants councils and committees for the settlement of water disputes, are currently participating in the solution of land and water problems.

The DRA Government has laid the necessary grounds for the unity and true equality of the country's tribes, clans, and nationalities, their active participation in social life and defense of the revolution, and their complete indivisibility in our country. The government shall consistently pursue this goal. [Applause] At present all representatives of all tribes, nationalities, and clans residing in the country have a role in the structure of the leadership and ranks of the PDPA, the central and local organs of the state, government, and social organizations. [Applause] The DRA revolutionary state, under the leadership of the PDPA, consistently pays thorough attention to the growth of the national cultures of the country's fraternal peoples. For the first time the fraternal nationalities and tribes of the country have found the opportunity to be educated in their mother languages and may benefit from the radio and press. [Applause]

The DRA Government also pays consistent attention to the voluntary settlement of the nomads, the improvement of their living conditions, the improvement of the conditions of grazing lands, and other necessary measures in their interest.

Our revolutionary state, with sincere respect for the sacred religion of Islam [applause] and religious traditions, has provided, is providing, and will always provide the ground for the free observance of the tenets and traditions of religion. [Applause] The great aid of the state in setting up madrasas and religious establishments, the assistance given to ulema and religious leaders, the creation of unprecedented facilities for pilgrims, the formation of the high council of ulema and religious leaders as a credible religious establishment, and the upgrading of the Department of Islamic Affairs to the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment are counted as the outstanding examples of the serious attention given by the party and state to the sacred religion of Islam and their respect for the religious beliefs of the people. [Applause]

With the victory of the revolution for the first time the equality of rights between men and women in sociopolitical economic and cultural areas was declared. At present, tens of thousands of noble Afghan women are taking part in the process of production, labor, and administration and are heroically and courageously engaged directly shoulder to shoulder with their brothers and fathers in defending the honor, freedom, and independence of the homeland. [Applause]

The name of our revolution is firmly linked to the all-around struggle against illiteracy and to the improvement of the system of education and training. As a result of the general campaign against illiteracy, so far more than 1 million people have become literate and hundreds of thousands are in the process of becoming literate. Literacy is at the heart of our cultural revolution. After the victory of the revolution, with the new reform, the system of education and training gained a new, patriotic and progressive content. The networks of schools, secondary and higher education institutions are being expanded. Fundamental attention was paid to the enhancement of the level of sociopolitical, professional and technical awareness of the toiling sons of the society, the outstanding examples of which are the formation of a workers faculty, the dispatch of thousands of youths to get their education and training abroad, in particular in friendly countries, and the acceptance of the sons of workers into the country's establishments for higher and vocational educations. [Applause]

After the victory of the revolution, a new press system was created in our country, the TV-radio networks are being expanded, not only in the capital, but in considerable parts of the country's provinces. The hours of radio-TV broadcasts, the number of publications of newspapers, weeklies and books have increased many times over.

The improvement and rise in the living standards of workers with higher wages, subsidies, the free distribution of primary consumer goods to the masses, the distribution of houses and apartments, the creation of rest places for workers and other aid, are some of the gains of our revolution.

The state's economic sector, as the most dynamic and mobile part of the national economy, is consistently growing and developing and the party and state pays constant attention to its development because this sector is the fundamental element of the growth and economic stability of the country. The economic gains of our revolution, despite the continuation of the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism and economic banditry — that is, the economic subversion of the enemies — are considerable. The state plans are being implemented. Work performance in some establishments has exceeded what was planned. Work competition, voluntary work, and collective work are being organized. Great work has been carried out for the reconstruction of establishments and the building of new projects. These factors have played an important role in maintaining economic stability in the country. [Applause]

The armed counterrevolution and their masters have not been able to put into practice their sinister schemes aimed at disrupting the economy and sowing destruction, famine, and poverty in the country. The state's economic policy gives consideration to the interests of various strata of the society, pursues long-term effective cooperation with national capitalists, medium and small traders and artisans, and supports private and mixed sectors of the economy.

Attention to the welfare of children, who are the future of the country, is an essential humanitarian task of our revolution. After the revolution in our country, a broad network of nurseries, homes, and rest places have been established for children and juveniles. [Applause] These all indicate that paying attention to the children and their healthy training today guarantees in practice the future of our children.

The Government of the DRA regards as one of its important tasks the constant attention to people's health, protection of mothers and children, and improvement in the country's medical services. Improvement of medical services, fight against contagious diseases, free medical aid, and expansion of public health networks in the localities have been made possible in the new

revolutionary conditions. The social policy of the PDPA at the present phase of the revolution is based on attraction of all forces, classes, and national and democratic strata of the society, including workers, peasants, intelligentsia, national traders and entrepreneurs, ulema, clergy, the patriotic elders of the tribes and Kuchis into the process of revolutionary transformations. [Applause]

After the April Revolution, in order to develop and expand the pillars of revolutionary power, practical and true possibilities for the participation of the people in managing state and social affairs were made possible by establishing trade unions, peasant cooperative unions, the DYOA, DWOA, intelligentsia unions, and other social organizations. These organizations play a great and increasing role in the active attraction of workers to sociopolitical life. [Applause]

In light of the principled policy of our revolutionary party and state, the masses have obtained the practical possibility of participating in the solution of social and state problems. The system of social organizations that have been organized during the existence of the National Fatherland Front [NFF] has been further consolidated, and plays an increasing social role in state affairs. This will further and further strengthen the unshakable links between the party and people. [Applause]

We believe and have time and again announced that the revolutionary power is strong with the awareness and assistance of the masses, and the masses are strong with the aid and assistance of the revolutionary power. [Applause] The PDPA and the DRA state will continue comprehensive and persistent work in order to forge more profound links with the masses as a necessary, vital, sacred and principled matter for the construction of a just and new society. The final victory and the invincibility of the revolution is embodied in this fact. Which fact? The party with the people, the party in contact with the people, the party in the service of the people, and the party in the service of the homeland! [Applause]

To ensure the further involvement of the country's working masses in the successful implementation of the national democratic revolution and to ensure their participation in management of state affairs and social life in the localities, the law of local organs of state administration and power of the DRA has been approved and its implementation has begun. [Applause] According to this law, the representatives of people in the tribal assemblies of provinces, districts, cities, subdistricts, and villages will be chosen in free and democratic elections. The governors of provinces and villages are no longer being appointed in Kabul and sent to the localities of Afghanistan. [Applause] (?They will be) elected and appointed by the localities, districts and provinces, that is, by the executive boards of the local councils. [Applause] [Words indistinct] are candidates of the NFF. Every Afghan citizen over 16 has the right to become a member of the NFF whether he is a party member or not. [Applause] The executive committees of the provinces, districts, and subdistricts will establish the new organs of revolutionary power in the localities. When we speak of democracy and democratization, our aim is what I have just stated. Further democratization of the state administration in localities consolidates and expands the unity of the state with the people. It helps the state machinery to meet the needs and requirements of the people of localities and comprehensively solve the problems as soon as possible in the interests of the workers.

Esteemed delegates, the gains and victories of the revolution would have been much greater if the undeclared war of imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction against the DRA had not continued. The enemies of revolutionary Afghanistan are treacherously expanding the scale of interference in the internal affairs of our country and the aggression against our people and homeland. This is the main obstacle toward the peaceful evolution of the revolution of Afghanistan and the speedy implementation of social, political, economic, and cultural transformations in the interests of the people.

The principal organizer of the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan is criminal and treacherous U.S. imperialism. U.S. imperialism and its allies have spent more than $1 billion in the past years in their destructive anti-Afghan activities. Pakistan has been transformed into a springboard of aggression and interference in the internal affairs of our country. More than 100 — in fact, 125 — military training camps have been set up in Pakistan under the supervision of U.S., Pakistani, Chinese, Egyptian, reactionary Arab countries — not progressive Arab countries, not the Muslim Arab people — and even Israeli Zionists. Thousands of bandit, murdering and thieving counterrevolutionaries were being trained and armed each year and sent to our revolutionary country for sabotage and destruction. In the territory of Iran and also in Xinjiang in China, training and arming camps for the criminal Afghan counterrevolutionaries exist.

The enemies of the Afghan revolution — that is, imperialism, hegemonism, and regional reaction — are using Afghan counterrevolutionary bands to achieve their own sinister aims. These traitors and mercenary bands, contrary to Afghan customs, traditions, honor, pride, and Islam have put themselves at the enemies' disposal and are trying to cover their inhuman and anti-Islamic actions under the false name of Islam and freedom. What is more shameless than to say that the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands are receiving arms for the so-called defense of Islam and freedom from the very enemies of freedom and of the Muslim people, from the enemies who crush the Muslims of Arab Palestine.

The April Revolution alone has opened the true path of freedom and national independence in our country and for the first time made it possible for our people to take their destiny into their own hands and not take orders from a parasitic, exploitive, and oppressive minority. [Applause]

The volume of assistance from the revolutionary government for the construction of mosques and preaching places and the assistance to clergy and religious institutions during the years of the revolution amounts to more than 851 million afghani which is more than what it was during the 50-years' rule of the past reactionary regimes. The sacred religion of Islam is being respected, protected, and observed in our country.

We regard the armed counterrevolutionaries as the mercenaries of imperialism in the war against our homeland. Bandits and the

criminal mercenary counterrevolutionary leaders are only a tool in the interference of imperialism in the internal affairs of our country. They oblige Afghan to kill Afghan. The enemies of the Afghans have a sinister and malicious plan so that more and more Afghans are killed; they then would divide and dismember our country and disrupt the peaceful lives and work of the Afghan people. Fugitives and counterrevolutionary bands are reserve forces for the treacherous imperialism and reaction in order to use them to crush liberating forces and the forces of peace and progress in the region.

The military regime of Ziaul Haq — the regime subservient to U.S. imperialism — uses the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands to crush the national and democratic movements of Pakistan, to create discord among the Pashtuns and Baluchis and among the free tribes, and to consolidate Zia's personal power and the survival of his black and oppressive military dictatorship. At present in Iran Afghan fugitives are sent to the war fronts with Iraq, and the crushing of freedom-loving, progressive, and patriotic forces of Iran is organized through the counterrevolutionary bands. What the Afghan counterrevolution is doing on the orders of their masters, who are becoming millionaires, is contrary to Afghan honor and dignity.

The counterrevolution is bringing pain and bloodshed from the other side of our sacred borders. It is bringing death and destruction on the people of the country of the Afghans. The enemies of our homeland are murdering innocent civilians and are killing children, women, elderly men, teachers, and clergy. They set fire to and destroy schools, mosques, preaching places, and hospitals. They burn harvests and farms and are imposing economic pressures on people in the localities. They destroy underground water canals and irrigation systems and roads, bridges and communication systems. They spread corrupt reactionary, imperialist and anti-Afghan culture and are violating the honor and dignity of people. They force women into compulsory marriage, ruthlessly and maliciously kidnap young girls, and empty the purses of peasants by imposing fines and so forth. They kill the peaceful Afghan people and ruthlessly and savagely torture them. All of these are unfortunately (?carried out) under the name of the sacred religion of Islam. These masks should be torn away and the faces of these satans should be unveiled. [Applause] These mercenaries of imperialism have opened a special and tragic page in the bloody history of imperialism. This is the true black face of Afghan counterrevolution which is beating its chest and crying that it is defending Islam. As a result of the destructive activities of the counterrevolution, tens of billions of afghanis worth of damage have been caused to the country's economy.

These robbers and murderers have plundered the people's wealth and are taking it out of the country. The enemies of our people, headed by U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism, and the reaction of the region, have not abandoned their aggressive plans to overthrow revolutionary power in our country, establish a regime subservient to reaction and imperialism, and transform Afghanistan into a base for aggression against the Afghan peoples and patriots, against the peoples of the region and the Soviet Union, and even to dismember and divide our sacred and ancient fatherland. The increased strengthening of the military capacity of Pakistan by U.S. imperialism and Chinese hegemonism, which pursues aggressive aims, has endangered the cause of the people and the security of the people of the region. Pakistan's continuous military aggression and provocation against the sacred sanctity of our country is the proof of this. The reactionary ruling circles of Iran also put forward dangerous and adventurist designs against the territory of the Afghans. This situation is unbearable for us Afghans. It is for this reason that the DRA, under the leadership of the PDPA, moved by national responsibility and responsibility for the people and protection of the country's independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity, has made it the order of the day to intensify the struggle against the counterrevolution and to strengthen and consolidate the Armed Forces of the DRA including the Army, Sarandoy, State Information Services (Khadi, and the civilian Armed Forces, such as the revolution defense groups, tribal anti-border militias, self-defense groups, civil defense groups, social order brigades, and the guards of the revolution. Defense of the homeland and revolution is the national and patriotic duty of every true son of the land of the Afghans. It is only with the effective defense of the revolution and its gains that we can maintain nationwide peace and tranquillity and neutralize their sinister plans following in the footsteps of our courageous and brave fathers and ancestors.

The independent revolutionary state of Afghanistan regards it as its unavoidable revolutionary duty to defend the homeland and the gains of the April Revolution and to safeguard security and peaceful work for the masses of the people. The military might of our Armed Forces and civil defense forces are at such a level that any type of resistance by the counterrevolution can be ended. [Applause]

It is obvious to everyone that the main source of the relative ability to survive and the activities of the counterrevolutionary bands is the all-around assistance [sic] they receive from imperialist countries, regional reaction and Arab reaction — not the progressive Arab countries and people — and Chinese hegemonism. Therefore, the further consolidation of the ranks of the Afghan Armed Forces and the expansion of all forms of participation of the masses in defense of the homeland and revolution is the order of the day for us as Afghans. Every true and revolutionary patriot should have his share in the cause of defending the homeland and revolution. At present, the most noble national and patriotic duty is to join the ranks of the heroic Armed Forces of the DRA and to completely and decisively crush the counterrevolution.

We desire the speediest establishment of nationwide peace and an end to bloodshed. [Applause] I would like to note that the DRA does not view all those who have left the country for various reasons the same. Our patriotic, national, and human responsibility dictates that we carefully distinguish between the counterrevolution and those who have been deceived and who are stuck in the satanic trap of those who have waged the undeclared war against Afghanistan. The objective assessment of the situation shows that the criminal and mercenary counterrevolutionary leaders and those so-called (?progressive) counterrevolutionaries who have the so-called imperialist ideological stance are not great in numbers. These forces are the main core of the counterrevolution. In fact before the revolution they were also in opposition to the national democratic movement. After the April Revolution, the representatives of the forces who lost their privileges,

class, and illegal interests as a result of the April Revolution and have fled the country strengthen the anti-Afghan and anti-revolutionary nucleus. The main sector of the counterrevolutionaries is made up of those who have joined the bandits out of a lack of sufficient awareness, fear and intimidation.

The lies, intimidation, and savagery of the enemies of the people and revolution have forced the naive fugitives and refugees on the other sides of the borders to be put in the camps of the counterrevolution. For the time being counterrevolutionary and bandit leaders are using pressure and threats to recruit from among the fugitives, refugees, and nomads who have been forcibly kept in the territory of Pakistan and Iran. The considerable number of fugitives and refugees, after being exposed to inhuman difficulties and realizing the truth of the April Revolution and learning the true nature of the counterrevolution, are ready to return to their country. However, the military rulers of Pakistan, America and the CIA, Chinese and Egyptian advisers, reactionary Arabs, the reactionary and oppressive rulers of Iran, and the leaders of the counterrevolution ruthlessly prevent their return to their homeland. We cannot remain indifferent to the destiny of these compatriots, and will make use of all means to prepare the conditions for their return to the homeland. Our stand in this regard is clear and patriotic.

Of course, those who were deceived and are returning to the revolutionary ranks and the motherland after realizing the facts, will be pardoned. [Applause] The amnesty decree of the Revolutionary Council Presidium is still valid. The sharp edge of the sword of the revolution will come down on those who have knowingly chosen the path of treachery to the homeland, who have taken up arms and are committing shameful and savage crimes against the people and the interests of the homeland. We (?would not have) resorted to force, arms and fire, and do not want to, had it not been for the most savage attacks by the enemies of the revolution against our people.

We have proved the profound humanitarian nature of the revolution by releasing thousands of political prisoners regardless of their ideological beliefs and their class, organizational, and professional attachments.

Esteemed delegates, I want to speak here on a basic, urgent, vital, national, and historical issue facing the PDPA, the DRA state and all people of Afghanistan. This issue is the creation of a firm barrier, a strong, steel-like and reliable fortress in the borders of the country. [Applause]

Under present conditions owing to the expansion of intervention, provocations, and aggressions by imperialism, reaction, and hegemonism and the infiltration of the armed counterrevolution exported from abroad, safeguarding the security of the DRA constitutes our main task. Based on the high interests of the DRA state power and the national sovereignty of the country and the interests of the revolution, the defense of every inch of the homeland's territory, the need to stop the export of armed counterrevolutionary bands from abroad into our territory, prevention of the supply of arms and ammunition to counterrevolutionary bands from the territory of Pakistan and Iran, and effective protection and cover of the DRA borders with Pakistan and Iran, constitute the core of our present vital tasks. [Applause]

The heroic Armed Forces and the noble and courageous Pashtun tribes, who in the course of history have defended, like their honor, the borders of the country from east to south against colonialists and invaders, have the huge responsibility of defending the borders as their sacred and national, historic, unavoidable, and urgent duty at the present moment. [Applause]

As we announced with the implementation of this decision the historic, national, and traditional interests of the tribes will be taken into account in consideration of their loyalty and cooperation with the DRA.

We also emphatically announce that in connection with this great decision, nobody will have the right to interfere with the traditional affairs and customs of the tribes. [Applause] The present traditional tribal relations from the viewpoint of trade, economy, culture, and family ties and blood relations as well as the passage routes of Kuchis and local residents will be protected. [Applause]

This decision will also be accompanied by broad socioeconomic and cultural measures to improve the life of border regions and enhance the level of growth of those areas. It is the duty of party and state organs to resolutely and in a principled manner realize the policy of our party and revolutionary government. The DRA state pays continuing attention to the prosperity and well-being of the tribes, nationalities, and clans of the country residing in our indescribable country, Afghanistan. However this does not mean that revolutionary power will be unlimitedly flexible against those who abuse this trust and attention. You esteemed representatives know that your state possesses sufficient power and strength. [Applause]

Efforts to sow discord among the tribes, to create a spirit of separatism and to turn them against the homeland, revolution, and people of Afghanistan will be met with firm and serious action. [Applause] Moreover, everyone should know that we can never remain indifferent about the destiny of the free tribes and our Pashtun and Baluch brothers who are under the ruthless boot of the oppression and cruelty of the militarist reaction of Pakistan. [Applause] In this regard we feel serious and great responsibility based on the principle of peace, freedom, and progress. [Applause] Since the victory of the April Revolution our country's foreign policy is founded on the interests of the noble people of Afghanistan, the defense of territorial integrity, national sovereignty and independence of our homeland, the consolidation of peace and security in the region and throughout the world, detente, preventing new nuclear and non-nuclear world war, struggle for the principles of peaceful coexistence, international revolutionary solidarity, the growth and expansion of fraternal and friendly traditional relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist and progressive countries, loyalty to the aims of the Nonaligned Movement and the defense of national liberation movements, struggle against colonialism and neocolonialism and imperialism, hegemonism, racial prejudice, Zionism, apartheid, colonialist exploitation, unswerving and serious observation of the UN Charter and the declaration of human rights. [Applause]

The April Revolution is an inseparable part of the process of international revolutions and in order to achieve its aims, it needs suitable international conditions. That is, the establishment of lasting peace and security throughout the world and in the region.

The DRA takes the necessary measures toward the defense and consolidation of peace.

We completely support the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, which are reflected in the official party and state documents of the Soviet Union and the statements and recent interview by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and are concerned with the protection of peace and prevention of the arms race, easing international tensions, and observation of the principles of peaceful coexistence. [Applause]

The strengthening, growth, and expansion of friendly relations and fraternal mutual traditional cooperation and good-neighborliness with the Soviet Union in various political, economic, cultural, technical, and other areas guarantee and help toward the consolidation of our national freedom and independence, the growth of our national economy, social progress, and the consolidation of the international position of the country of our Afghans, and good-neighborliness is being developed and evolved. [Applause]

The Great October Revolution has played an important role in the success of the anticolonial and liberating struggles of the Afghan people. In its first announcements, the young Soviet republic declared readiness to help and support the people of the east in their struggle for freedom from the sway of colonialism. The Soviet Union was the first country to officially recognize the independence of Afghanistan. [Applause] And Afghanistan was the first country to extend official recognition to the young republic of Soviet Russia. [Applause] The political, material, and moral support of Soviet Russia played a great role in consolidating the independence of Afghanistan. [Applause] The foundation of broad economic, cultural, and military relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union was laid by V.I. Lenin, the great friend of the Afghan people. This was at the time of King Amanollah.

And this was when the young Russian Soviet republic was faced with a difficult economic situation, internal civil war, and interventions by imperialism.

On the basis of unbreakable Afghan-Soviet friendship, great economic projects and establishments such as those for producing electrical energy, chemical industries, machine-tool repairs, motor traffic highways, airports, great agricultural farms, and so on have been built in Afghanistan with the help of the Soviet Union. [Applause] About 99 projects are now functioning in our country with the cooperation of the Soviet Union. [Applause] And another 90 projects are under survey and construction. About 60 percent of the total industrial products of the country are produced in establishments that have been built with the help of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union's economic and technical assistance has played a great role in the growth of the young working class of Afghanistan. During the last 30 years, some 75,000 skilled workers and specialists have been trained in Afghan-Soviet cooperation projects; thousands of engineers, doctors, technicians, teachers, and lecturers have been trained in the educational and cultural establishments of the Soviet Union.

After the victory of the April Revolution, Afghan-Soviet relations have been raised to a new high level of fraternal and comradely relations which are regularly improving and becoming richer. [Applause] The Treaty of Friendship, Good-Neighborliness and Cooperation between the DRA and the USSR dated 5 December 1978, opened a new and glorious page in the history of Afghan-Soviet friendship. Throughout the history of traditional friendly relations between the two countries, the Soviet Union has consistently given selfless, great, and vital aid to our people in the most important and dangerous moments of life for defense and help to our country, and for defending the freedom, national independence, and territorial integrity of our homeland. [Applause]

Esteemed delegates, the Soviet Union has not asked and will not ask any kind of political concession from Afghanistan and has never imposed political conditions on our people and the independent Government of Afghanistan, and will not impose them. [Applause]

The Soviet Union has selflessly pursued the Leninist policy of good-neighborliness, cooperation, and friendship toward the people of Afghanistan and has always been inclined to see Afghanistan as free, independent, prosperous, and progressive. [Applause]

Allow me, on behalf of the free people of Afghanistan, to again express profound gratitude and thanks for the internationalist friendly and timely military assistance of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan in response to the request by the DRA at the most difficult historic moments. [Applause]

This fraternal and timely assistance foiled the sinister designs of reaction and imperialism aimed at the disintegration and division of Afghanistan, and the destruction of Afghan society. [Applause]

Brothers and esteemed delegates. The enemies of revolutionary Afghanistan strive to distort the nature of the disinterested fraternal military assistance of the Soviet Union. The [word indistinct] so-called Afghanistan problem, which has been cunningly raised by imperialism, regional reaction, and Beijing hegemonism, headed by U.S. imperialism, is nothing but shameless interference in the internal affairs of the country of the Afghans and a clear violation of international law. The limited contingents of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan will stay in our country as long as there is danger of aggression and intervention by imperialism and reaction against the DRA, against the independence of Afghanistan, against the territorial integrity of Afghanistan and against the national sovereignty of Afghanistan. [Applause]

If foreign intervention and aggression against the DRA, against the independence and territorial integrity of Afghanistan were to end tomorrow and if credible international guarantees were obtained on nonrepetition of these acts, then in that case the limited contingents of the Soviet Union would, by agreement between the two sides — that is, the agreement of the DRA side and the Soviet Union — return to their great peace-loving country. [Applause]

The presence of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan does not threaten others and is an issue belonging to the two friendly and fraternal countries. [Applause]

Afghanistan is a peaceful, independent and nonaligned country. [Applause] It is an independent country with national sovereignty that has complete freedom in establishing relations with every country of the world and can ask for assistance from any country for the defense of its national interests. Schemes aimed at limiting Afghanistan's foreign relations and defining its friends and foes, which are being pursued by imperialism, are examples of open interference in the internal affairs of our country and undermine the national sovereignty of Afghanistan. We Afghans are resolutely fighting against these designs which have colonial and neocolonial aims. [Applause]

We vigorously condemn the formation of the U.S. Central Command, Centcom, which has brought a real and serious threat to the independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the South and Southwest Asian countries, including Afghanistan, the Gulf region, the Indian Ocean, the Middle East, and the Horn of Africa and is one of the manifestations of the aggressive and interventionist policies of U.S. imperialism and the intensification of its military presence, which takes place thousands of kilometers away from that country's shores. [Applause]

The lunatic arming of Pakistan as a regional gendarme of U.S. imperialism has directed real danger to the security of its neighboring countries particularly the DRA and the great and peace-loving country of India. We want an end to the futile war between Iran and Iraq which serves the interests of imperialism. The solution to the Middle East problems, at the center of which lies the realization of the just rights of the persecuted and Muslim people of Palestine, is possible by curbing the aggressions and expansionist and occupationist schemes of the Israeli Zionists and their imperialist guardians, the withdrawal of the Israeli troops from the Arab occupied lands, official recognition of the people's right to national sovereignty, and the creation of an independent Palestinian state in the land of Palestine. [Applause] We support the rightful cause of the fraternal Arab Palestinian people and other fraternal Arab people in their struggle against Zionism and imperialism as well as Arab reaction. [Applause]

We condemn the plan of aggression by U.S. imperialism against revolutionary Nicaragua with hatred and indignation and declare once again our solidarity with the revolutionary people of Nicaragua. [Applause]

In order to solve the tense situation around Afghanistan, which is the direct result of the aggressive and interventionist policies of reaction, hegemonism, and imperialism, the DRA has put forward specific, realistic, practical, universally acceptable, and flexible proposals and initiatives. The DRA Government proposals dated 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981 are examples of this. These proposals are indicative of the interests of all fraternal peoples of Pakistan and Iran also. [Applause] Once again we declare our unbreakable loyalty and readiness to this principled policy to solve the disputed and unsolved issues with Pakistan and Iran. [Applause]

Unfortunately, the Pakistan military regime, under pressure from Washington, headed by the Reagan administration and a number of other reactionary and imperialist countries, and also the ruling, oppressive and reactionary circles of Iran, have no sincere inclination to solve these problems. We have taken practical steps in this regard with good will and honesty, and expect the same from our neighbors. We once again announce that the disputed problems can be solved through direct talks in a just, peaceful and democratic manner. [Applause]

Long, historical, cultural and traditional attachments link the Afghan people with the brethern people of Iran and Pakistan. The military regime of Pakistan and the reactionary ruling circles of Iran, by neglecting this historic fact, have taken the course of hostility with the people and nation of Afghan in contradiction to the will of the people of these two countries. The international position of Afghanistan today is more consolidated and credible than ever before. [Applause]

The unshakeable internationalist relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and other socialist and progressive countries, the international working class, the national liberation movements of Asia, Africa and Latin America, progressive regimes, parties and political organizations throughout the world are growing and expanding with confidence. Today, Afghanistan has diplomatic relations with 80 countries. The PDPA has established links with 135 fraternal workers, national and democratic and revolutionary parties and national liberation movements. [Applause]

Revolutionary Afghanistan once again expresses gratitude for the expression of militant solidarity by the progressive forces, parties and organizations of the world with the righteous cause of the Afghan revolution and people. [Applause]

The PDPA and the DRA Government express profound anxiety at the danger that threatens peace, civilization and mankind with death and destruction. The danger of war has increased as a result of the aggressive policy of imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialism. Imperialism's efforts to gain military superiority, to intensify the nuclear arms race and to take it into outer space via the "star wars" program, to use U.S. state terrorism in the international arena, to interfere in the internal affairs of others, and to declare a crusade against the socialist countries, the international working class and the national liberation movements, aggravate the international situation.

Esteemed delegates, dear brothers and sisters: A fervent love for the homeland, the wish to maintain nationwide peace, a common destiny and the future of the country's generations in accordance with the requirements of the present situation, have brought us together here. We will be accountable to history and to future generations. The present Grand Tribal Assembly will take its place in the heart of the revolutionary and eventful contemporary history of our country. [Applause]

The name of the present Grand Tribal Assembly should be in parralel with the sacred name of peace and security, freedom and progress and the ancient, prideful name of the homeland of Afghans. [Applause]

Let future generations remember the present Grand Tribal Assembly with pride. [Applause]

Let the souls of the militant revolutionary youth of the country who (?have died) for the freedom and independence of the homeland, and who are resting in the blood-stained Martyrs Hill and in unknown, blood-stained graves, be happy with our great, national and historic decisions. [Applause]

Pride and honor be with the free Afghan people. [Applause]

Long live our free, independent and revolutionary country, Afghanistan! [Applause]

Pride be on the Grand Tribal Assembly of the working and noble people of Afghanistan! [Applause]

Long live the homeland, people and the revolution! [Applause]

Karmal Closing Speech

LD302319 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Apr 85

[Concluding speech by Babrak Karmal, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to Grand Tribal Assembly in Kabul on 23 April — recorded]

[Text] Esteemed delegates of the Grand Tribal Assembly of the people of Afghanistan, dear guests, dear compatriots. We are now at the fervent revolutionary moments of the successful conclusion of a great political event in the revival of our country's recent national history. The Grand Tribal Assembly of the trusted representatives of the people of Afghanistan discussed and comprehensively assessed the most fundamental, vital and greatly important national historic issues. Allow me to state with confidence and pride that the decisions of this Grand Tribal Assembly, as a great and unprecedented event, will remain forever at the moving heart of the proud history of our homeland. [Applause] And our future generations, our children, will remember them with pride and honor.

In these days the Grand Assembly, on behalf of all people of Afghanistan, all nationalities, tribes and clans residing in our indestructible country, made historical and fundamentally important decisions after comprehensive assessment and attention in a free, democratic and fraternal atmosphere, in a manner that is in the praiseworthy tradition of the Afghan assemblies. [Applause] Important and destiny-making issues of the present phase of life of Afghan society, and important issues related to the region and the world were comprehensively discussed and debated.

In this Grand Tribal Assembly emphasis was laid on the fundamental urgency and undelayable necessity of the present moment, that is, the equipping and mobilization of all forces and capabilities of the party, state and people of the country toward the repulsion and elimination of foreign aggression and intervention; the cessation of the imposed undeclared war of imperialism, reaction and hegemonism against our revolutionary and heroic country, against the sovereignty of the Afghan nation; the prevention of fratricide of Afghan by Afghan, which has been instigated by the enemies of the Afghans and the maintenance of reliable security in the country; and the complete elimination of the counterrevolutionary bands.

The home and foreign policy of the DRA was comprehensively analyzed and assessed, and the future path in this regard was further enlightened through bringing to final victory the national and democratic, anti-feudalist and anti-imperialist revolution towards the construction of a new and prosperous Afghan society [applause]; that is, a society free of the exploitation of man by man. With clarity, confidence and pride it could be stated that the representatives of the people of Afghanistan in the body of the present Grand Tribal Assembly, with a feeling of high patriotic responsibility, vigilance, complete wisdom and clear distinction between their friends and enemies, held counsel and made decisions with ardent love and determined faith in the homeland of their forefathers. [Applause]

The present Grand Tribal Assembly was held while our country is passing through a critical moment in the trend and process of revolution. The enemies of the people of Afghanistan are expanding an undeclared war against the DRA. The persistent aggressions of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction against the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country and against our revolution and peace-loving people have intensified. Therefore, the defense of the motherland, the defense of the fatherland, the gains of the revolution and the unity of action and coordination, more than ever before, constitute our fundamental task under present situations and conditions. It should be pointed out that the internal and external enemies of the DRA have imposed an undeclared war on the people of Afghanistan, and foreign interventionists faced the peaceful social revolutionary change of our country with armed counterrevolution infiltrated from abroad.

The present Grand Tribal Assembly, convened in accordance with the customs of our free fathers and in complete accord with the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam [applause] and our accepted free national and traditional principles in a democratic manner, enjoys great historical importance and is in the center of attention of our people and all peoples of the world.

Allow me on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government to express profound gratitude to the representatives of the national Grand Tribal Assembly for expressing their support for the policy of our party and revolutionary state. [Applause]

Esteemed delegates, the work of this historic Grand Tribal Assembly is concluding. We consider the decisions of the present Grand Tribal Assembly a manifestation of the true will of the noble and toiling people of Afghanistan. [Applause] Overwhelmed by national, patriotic and revolutionary pride, we declare that the brave and courageous Afghan people, unitedly, are taking steps towards a glorious future [applause] and no power in the world is able to disrupt the unity of the party, state and the people of Afghanistan, this castle and foundation of invincibility of our freedom, independence and revolution. [Applause] The decisions of the present Grand Tribal Assembly confirm this. The party and revolutionary state consider them-

selves dutybound, certainly and surely, to accomplish the decisions of the historic Grand Tribal Assembly with faithfulness, sacrifice and loyalty to the interests of the people and the interests of the homeland [applause] and to work and struggle with heart and soul towards the realization of the aspirations of the April Revolution. [Applause]

Respected delegates, the decisions of the present historic Grand Tribal Assembly are a satisfying manifestation of the righteousness of our cause and the correctness of the path our homeland is traveling on its way towards the construction of a new and prosperous future society. Let us see now as to what results have been obtained from the responsible 3-day work of the Grand Tribal Assembly of the Afghan nation as the highest decisionmaking body of the people of Afghanistan:

The Grand Tribal Assembly categorically declared that the PDPA is a leading and guiding force of the Afghan society and state. [Applause] Only the PDPA is able, with a feeling of responsibility and complete capability, to pursue the struggle of the Afghan people for peace and freedom, the consolidation of national independence and true democracy, progress and social justice and the advancement of the country. Its policy enjoys the support and trust of the masses of the people. [Applause]

Our people see in the body of the PDPA a vanguard of the working class and all workers of Afghanistan, the firm and strong defenders of the high interests, national independence and sovereignty, territorial integrity and national honor of our country and a party truly at the service of the people; the party of the patriotic Afghan guards; a party responsive to the interests of all nationalities, tribes and clans of the country; a party of true internationalists; a party of revolutionary thought and action; and the epitome of the great and progressive aspirations of the best, aware and working sons of the homeland and our time. [Applause] We assure you, the representatives of the noble people of Afghanistan, that the PDPA, as before, will be at the front ranks of the sacred struggle in the interests of the homeland, people and revolution [applause] and will strive forward in an unbreakable and firm link with the masses of the people. [Applause]

The Grand Tribal Assembly pointed out that the victorious April Revolution and its new, development stage is the logical outcome of the long struggles of our working people against the past cruel social relations and the realization of their lofty aspirations towards putting an end to historical backwardness and promoting all-around social progress. The April Revolution in Afghanistan put an end forever to the tyrannical rule of feudalist, oppressive rulers, usurers, local reactionaries and tyrants who had for years lived at the expense of the suffering of the people. [Applause] Transformed, the people of Afghanistan, the true owners of the homeland for the first time in the history of the country founded a national, independent and democratic state, the DRA state of the new era. [Applause]

The aims of the national democratic April Revolution and the domestic and foreign policy of the DRA, which are based on the principles of national independence and freedom of the people, true democracy, social justice, equality and fraternity, all-around social progress and the defense of peace and progress, are in accord with the historical will of the people and the demands of our time, and are the epitome of the interests and demands of the decisive majority of the toiling masses of the people including peasants, workers, national and progressive intellectuals, artisans and professionals, national traders and capitalists, patriotic ulema and spiritual leaders, nomads and other democratic and patriotic forces of all nationalities and tribes of the country. [Applause]

Prosperity and raising the people's standard of living are embedded in the realization of the lofty aspirations of the April Revolution at its new development stage. The implementation of the aims of the party and our revolutionary state constitutes the main pillar of passing from historical backwardness to comprehensive social progress. [Applause] We firmly declare that the proud path the April Revolution has opened before us and you, the credible representatives of the people of Afghanistan, who have approved it, will be followed by us with constancy and firmness, self-sacrifice, vigor and irreconcilability against the enemies of the people and the enemies of the homeland. [Applause]

The Grand Tribal Assembly stated that the reaction of the region — that is, the militarist regime of Pakistan and the ruling reactionary circles of Iran, international imperialism, headed by criminal U.S. imperialism and hegemonist China — by unleashing an undeclared war against the DRA and the training, arming, equipping and infiltration of the armed counterrevolution to the territory of the DRA, are openly interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, are overtly encroaching in our independent and sovereign country, and in this way trample on international standards and regulations.

The counterrevolution, as mercenaries of reaction and imperialism, are acting against our homeland and people. The counterrevolutionary bandits, contrary to the honor and Afghan dignity and the teachings of the sacred religion of Islam, are the tools of the aggressive policy of the enemies of our homeland and people and are the agents of death and destruction. Therefore, the Grand Tribal Assembly decided that the complete and decisive crushing of the armed counterrevolution and the repulsion of foreign aggression is the sacred national and patriotic duty of the people of Afghanistan. [Applause] Succeeding in nationwide peace and maintaining peace and security in the country first of all depends on the crushing of the counterrevolutionary criminal bands and the infiltrated mercenaries from abroad. The DRA, in accordance with the will of the people of Afghanistan, which was broadly reflected in this Grand Tribal Assembly, consider the intensification of struggle against the counterrevolution as its most urgent task. [Applause]

The time has come that those who have been deceived should utilize the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium which is still valid and return to the loving breast of the homeland and state, return to their homes and villages and resume their peaceful and graceful life. [Applause]

The national historical Grand Tribal Assembly of the representatives of the people of Afghanistan emphasized that under conditions when the undeclared war against the DRA is being further broadened and the interventions and aggressions of imperialism against out country are being intensified and the borders of the country are constantly violated and the enemies are designing

fresh schemes in hostility with our people and homeland, the maintenance of the security of the DRA and the lofty interests of the homeland, revolution and people dictate that the strengthening of the country's Armed Forces, the increase of combat capability and the completion of their ranks, taking serious and urgent measures towards the protection, defense and screening of the DRA borders with Pakistan and Iran, should be transformed into a matter of great vital and historical importance and a matter of all the party, state and people of Afghanistan. [Applause] Defense of the revolution, joining the ranks of the DRA Armed Forces and the intensification of struggle against the counterrevolution is the sacred national and patriotic duty of every citizen of the DRA.

We welcome this important decision of the Grand Tribal Assembly in further strengthening of the DRA Armed Forces, the expansion of the ranks of large civil defense units and putting into practice measures for effectively defending the DRA borders with Pakistan and Iran. [Applause]

In this great national cause attention will be paid to the absorbtion of our courageous and fraternal Pashtun tribes who, in the length of history, have defended with courage and bravery the borders of their fatherland against colonialists and foreign aggressors in the east and south of the Afghan land. [Applause]

The Grand Tribal Assembly declared that the foreign policy of the DRA, which will be pursued with further constancy, is based on the principles and aims of defending territorial integrity, national sovereignty and independence, struggle towards the consolidation of peace in the world and the prevention of a new catastrophic international war, loyalty to the Nonaligned Movement, struggle for detente and peaceful coexistence, international revolutionary solidarity, the expansion and growth of fraternal, friendly and traditional historical relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist and progressive countries, defense of the international working class movements and national liberation movements, struggle against imperialism, hegemonism, racism, Zionism, apartheid, colonialism and neocolonialism, respect for and serious observation of the UN Charter and the universal declaration of human rights, friendship with the people and the strengthening and expansion of mutually beneficial relations based on friendship and cooperation with the countries and brother Muslim peoples of the world in its struggle for peace and friendship and the solution of the unsolved questions in relations with the neighboring countries in the region in an atmosphere of friendship and peace on the basis of sound mind, realism, goodwill and mutually constructive and benificial negotiations which is in complete accord with our national and historical interests. [Applause] This principled policy is the guarantor of the consolidation of the position and the enhancement of the international prestige of our country. The Grand Tribal Assembly of Afghanistan, the elected Grand Tribal Assembly of the people of Afghanistan, put its seal of approval on it. [Applause] The elected Grand Tribal Assembly of the people of Afghanistan appraised the friendly, fraternal and traditional Afghan-Soviet relations as emanated from the historical and firm will of the people of Afghanistan and an important element in safeguarding national independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the proud homeland of the Afghans. [Applause]

The Soviet Union, by extending extensive and all-around political, economic, technical, cultural and other assistance, has played a great part in the consolidation of the national independence, progress, and development and the growth of the foundations of the national economy of the DRA. [Applause] From the beginning of its creation until now, the country of the Soviets has remained a sincere and loyal friend of the people of Afghanistan. The Afghan-Soviet relations which with the victory of the April Revolution were raised to a qualitive phase of the new era, are strengthening further from day to day. [Applause]

The great assistance of the Soviet Union to the DRA has played a great role in the progress and prosperity of the country and, in particular, its military assistance to the people of Afghanistan towards the repulsion and rebuffing of foreign aggression against the DRA, is in complete accord with the spirit of the Afghan-Soviet friendship and our national interests. [Applause] The strengthening, deepening and further expansion of fraternal relations with the Soviet Union, emanates from the true will and desires of the people of Afghanistan themselves. [Applause]

The expansion of the DRA relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist and progressive countries, is a great help to the struggle of the people of Afghanistan for protecting their independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity and the all-around progress of the country.

It is timely to remember that as Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech yesterday in the last plenum of the CPSU Central Committee said: The Soviet Union will never spare complete help and support for national liberation movements, that means including the national liberation movement of Afghanistan, and the struggle of the peoples for independence and national sovereignty, freedom, social progress, and peace. [Applause] Allow me to assure you responsible representatives of the people of Afghanistan that we will forever preserve our friendly and fraternal relations with the Soviet Union. [Applause]

Esteemed delegates, the historic and destiny-making decisions of the Grand Tribal Assembly of the representatives of the people of Afghanistan constitute a powerful document asserting the correctness of the revolution and our party, which has led the people's struggle through the trials and tribulations of life and has directed it with wisdom to final victory. [Applause]

With conviction the PDPA once again announces that it does not and will not conceal any difficulty or national problem from the Afghan people and will present all the facts to the courageous and free people of Afghanistan. [Applause] In case of error, the party, including party leaders and myself, as long as I live, will openly and ruthlessly criticize itself in front of the people, will certainly correct errors, and will always be ready to serve the noble and working people and nation of Afghanistan with humility and sacrifice; this is as it should be. [Applause]

The historic decisions of the Grand Tribal Assembly show that the Afghan nation is populated by free, peace-loving, progressive, and justice-loving people. These decisions also prove that our people, as militant, aware, and heroic people, are increasingly able to make heroic and brave decisions regarding the most

fundamental issues of our history and society with a feeling of responsibility and unity and to distinguish without fear between their external and internal friends and foes. [Applause]

Now the courageous and working people of Afghanistan have risen to their feet; and the aggressive, interventionist, plundering reaction, and hegemonism no longer have the ability to resist the people of Afghanistan. [Applause]

We are confident that our future generations will remember this historic Grand Tribal Assembly with great pride. [Applause] A bright and prosperous future certainly lies ahead of us and our sons. [Applause] Our liberating revolution and the unity of our people are the guarantors of the realization of this true aspiration. [Applause]

Let all our party, state, and heroic and revolutionary people in unity make the destiny-making decisions of this historic Grand Tribal Assembly the model of their work and struggle! [Applause]

Peace, security, freedom, and prosperity for our people are our sacred and fervant hope! [Applause]

Long live our homeland — proud, beautiful, and ancient Afghanistan! [Applause]

Forward to the achievement of the final objectives of the revolution! [Applause]

We firmly believe that we will make our homeland prosperous. Long live the PDPA, the party of the working class, and all workers of Afghanistan!

Long live the DRA state!

Long live the Afghan nation! [Applause]

Eternal unity for the party, state, and people!

May the flag of the free, indepeadent, new, and revolutionary Afghanistan forever wave over the world! [Applause]

PDPA Central Committee Message Marks May Day

LD010628 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0417 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 30, BAKHTAR: The Central Committee of the PDPA in a message issued here today congratulates the international solidarity day of the workers of the world which falls on May first, to the workers and the working people of Afghanistan, the Soviet Union as well as to the other socialist countries.

The working people of Afghanistan mark this jubilant day at a time when the Afghan people just celebrated the 7th anniversary of April Revolution 1978. This day also coincides with the recently-concluded convocation of Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) of the representatives of the people of Afghanistan.

This historical and democratic Loya Jirga of the people of Afghanistan, the message emphasizes, once again called upon the workers, peasants and the working people of all tribes and nationalities of Afghanistan to become ever-greater united in defending the interests of the people of the country and the revolution and in giving shattering rebuffs to the enemies of the country. That is, to defend the country against the U.S. imperialism, hegemonism, China, Pakistan, Iran and other enemies of the revolution.

The representatives of the people of the Loya Jirga decided that the frontiers of the country with Pakistan and Iran be sealed. They called upon the people of Afghanistan to defend the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan. Loya Jirga for the first time endorsed the policy of the party and state of the DRA.

The international solidarity day of the workers and the working people will be gloriously marked throughout Afghanistan on May 1, the message concludes.

Karmal Message to SRV Marks Victory Over U.S.

LD010657 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0429 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Kabul, April 30, BAKHTAR: Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, have sent congratulatory messages to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the occasion of the tenth anniversary celebration of the victory of the Vietnamese against the aggressive imperialism of the United States. The telegram has been addressed to Le Duan, general secretary of Communist Party of Vietnam, Truong Chinh chairman of the State Council and Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers of that country.

The Afghan leaders have expressed confidence that the existing fraternal relations between the parties and the governments of the two countries would be ever-further consolidated.

Foreign Ministry Denies Air Space Allegations

LD301741 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned this morning at 1130 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the following points were made to him by the head of the First Political Department of the ministry:

The Pakistani authorities, continuing their accusations and fabrications, have once again alleged that on 25 April 1985, four Afghan aircraft intruded 3 km into Pakistani air space at 1030 and dropped two bombs in an area 2 km south east of Arandu. Similarly, they alleged that on 26 April 85 at 1015 two Afghan aircraft intruded 2 km into Pakistani air space and fired 20 rockets in a distance 2 km to the south east of Arandu, which caused no damage.

The Government of the DRA, after investigation, completely

rejects these groundless and false allegations and calls on the militarist Pakistani authorities to end such accusations which result in an increase in tension on the borders.

BAKHTAR Interviews Trade Union Official

LD010706 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0423 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Kabul, April 30, BAKHTAR: "The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan have paid special attention in order to improve the working conditions of the workers and thus the standard of living of the workers has considerably been raised."

This was stated by Hassan Sepayeh deputy president of the Central Council of the Trade Unions of the DRA with a BAKHTAR correspondent.

He said that the trade unions of the DRA with 203,000 members constitute the broadest social organization in the DRA and is the most important nucleus of the formation of the working class and undertake the leadership of the workers movement. Hassan Sepayeh emphasized that the trade unions in Afghanistan have considerably contributed in ensuring security in the country and in the wiping out of the counter-revolutionary elements.

Suffice it to say that the pay of the workers has been raised by over 44 percent and over eleven thousand houses have also been distributed to them after the April Revolution. The model workers have also been awarded orders, medals and letters of merits for their praiseworthy services, Hassan Sepayeh concluded.

Rebels Crushed, Weapons Seized in Baghlan, Helmand

LD302053 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] As a result of successful operations caried out recently by the courageous security forces in various parts of Dahan-e Ghowri District, Baghlan Province, a number of savage rebels belonging to the criminal band of Mawlawi Khalis have been crushed and 192 various types of weapons with a large quantity of ammunition, 2 mortars, 5 DShK and 1 loudspeaker were seized from them.

According to another report, recently in the course of successful operations by our vigilant security forces in Kajaki District, Helmand Province, a number of rebels belonging to the so-called Eslami band were crushed and a number of them were captured, and 51 various types of weapons, ammunition, 1 DShK and 1 rocket launcher were seized from them. The security forces also destroyed 2 mortars, 1 DShK, 3 rocket launchers, 50 assorted weapons, 4 ammunition stores and 1 vehicle loaded with deadly weapons and ammunition which had been brought to our country to savagely kill our toiling campatriots and sabotage public property.

According to another report, an 11-strong group of our deceived compatriots who were cooperating with rebel bands, as a result of their hostile propaganda in Herat Province, realizing the truth of the April Revolution and taking advantage of the amnesty decree of the Revolutionary Council and the resolution of the DRA Loya Jirga joined the revolutionary government, bringing their armaments. Repenting their past actions, they pledged to help eliminate rebel bands and maintain a nation-wide peace.

BBC: Soviet Forces Reportedly Attack Civilians

TA301544 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Western diplomatic sources in Pakistan have been reporting an unusual number of atrocities allegedly committed by the Soviet troops against civilians in Afghanistan. The atrocities are said to have resulted in big losses of life, particularly in the north of the country. From the Pakistani capital Islamabad Alex Brody reports:

[Begin recording] Western diplomatic sources have listed several occasions on which they say Soviet forces are reported to have attacked civilians with great loss of life. In recent weeks, there have been a number of stories reaching Pakistan from the far north of Afghanistan of concerted attacks on civilians.

One of those reports was of the killing of civilians in the town of Khanabad, east of Konduz city. Now diplomatic sources say some 45 people are reported to have been killed at the end of March in retaliation for a guerrilla raid in which 4 or 5 Russian soldiers died. There is also a report of civilians being tortured and killed in a village near Konduz, during a search operation which followed a guerrilla attack. Diplomats also say that they have reports of a similar operation at a village in neighboring Samangan Province.

A team of French doctors, which recently returned from working in the north, said that they had encountered many refugees from the Konduz area, where, they were told, villages had been destroyed and crops burned.

The Western diplomats also say there were heavy civilian casualties when a village in the Herat area in the west of the country was bombed in late March, apparently in retaliation for a guerrilla attack on a convoy at Torghundi, on the Afghan-Soviet border. And Western diplomatic sources say that more recently in the east of the country, villages in the Laghman Province were bombed by helicopters and planes just over 2 weeks ago. And 3 weeks ago, several villages in Nangarhar Province, near the city of Jalalabad, were subjected to the same treatment. [end recording]

BAKHTAR on Pakistani Opposition to Military

LD010646 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0420 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Kabul, April 30, BAKHTAR: The freedom-loving and uprisen people of Pakistan have realised the fact that with the emergence of the military regime in that country and the usurping of power from the legitimate government of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, numerous calamities have been inflicted upon them, writes an article carried by daily *HEYWAD*.

The daily adds that as a result of the expanded collusions between the generals of Pakistan and the incumbent Washington admin-

istration, Pakistan has been entangled in the covert imperialist ties and is widely exploited in the interest of imperialism.

Therefore the vast masses of the working people of Pakistan have been ever further mobilised against the military regime and have staged broad struggles against the policy of the regime.

Eleven opposition parties of the regime are enjoying ever increasing support of various strata of Pakistan and are being invigorated. The recent unrest emanating from the huge demonstrations of Pakistani students in Karachi and other cities of that country means a continuation of the struggles of the people of that country against the military regime.

Since the people of Pakistan well recognise their foes and friends, they are strongly linking their struggle against the regime with the struggle against the incumbent Washington administration. The recent nation-wide demonstrations were vividly [word indistinct] as against USA and imperialism. The arrival of Alexander Haig, former U.S. secretary of state, to Pakistan was the objective of the protest demonstrations, the daily concluded.

BANGLADESH

Chittagong Hill Tract Rebels in Mass Surrender

BK301615 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Another 233 members of the so-called Shanti Bahini [Peace Forces] have surrendered and deposited their arms to the authorities at Rangamati. They declared their decision to renounce the path of violence and expressed their solidarity with the present government in its efforts to bring about development of the hill tract region. Among those who surrendered yesterday are: 4 majors, 9 captains, 13 lieutenants, 25 second lieutenants, and 4 political secretaries. They deposited their arms and ammunition on the basis of an agreement signed between the zonal martial law administrator, the tribals, and Shanti Bahini leaders on the 19th of this month.

Briefing local newsmen, the zonal martial law administrator Zone C, Major General Nuruddin said over 2,800 Shanti Bahini men have returned to normal life surrendering 228 arms [as heard] since October 1983 [words indistinct].

Referring to the agreement, he said it was signed at Chittagong cantonment following negotiations with six Shanti Bahini leaders [word indistinct] by six tribal chiefs and five armed [word indistinct].

INDIA

Gandhi Meets With Opposition, Discusses Punjab

BK301611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister had a meeting with opposition leaders in New Delhi today. During the 2-hour meeting the latest developments in Punjab were discussed. The opposition leaders, who met the Akali leadership recently, gave an account of the talks of their meetings. It was decided that the leaders should keep in touch with the Akali leadership. It was also decided that the government and the opposition will have further exchange of views at the earliest.

The government side was represented by Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, Mr V.P. Singh, Mr K.C. Pant, Mr Buta Singh, and Mr H.K.L. Bhagat besides the prime minister. Leaders of CPI, CPI-M, Telugu Desam, AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam], Janata, Congress-S, DMKP [Dalit Mazdoor Kisan Party], BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], Forward Bloc, RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party], and DMK attended.

Gujarat Situation Updated After Curfew Relaxation

BK301259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] No untoward incident has been reported in Ahmedabad so far after the relaxation of curfew in the entire city from this morning. The city bus service is plying in some more areas now. There has been an improvement in the attendance of employees in government offices and banks.

In Gandhinagar, the call for a bundh [strike] given by the state government employees has evoked partial response. The bundh was in protest against alleged police attacks on government employees who were agitating against the roster system of the state government. Attendance of employees in the state secretariat was affected but normal life in Gandhinagar remained unaffected. State transport bus service and private vehicular traffic functioned normally.

Barring a stabbing incident in Baroda, the situation in all parts of the state remained peaceful. In Surat, one of the four injured in the firing last Saturday died of the injuries today.

Gujarat 'Peaceful'

BK010323 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] The situation in Ahmedabad remained peaceful last night barring an incident of arson. Curfew has been further relaxed in the city from 0700 [0130 GMT] to 2000 in the night. In Surat, curfew will be relaxed in phases today. However, indefinite curfew continues in the Wadi area in Baroda. In Kadi town in Mehsana District, the relaxation of curfew today for 3 hours from 0700 in the morning will be restricted to women to buy essential commodities. Curfew has been relaxed during day time in Visnagar, Viramgam, and Anand.

PAKISTAN

JANG Reports Soviet Missiles Deployed Near Border

GF301512 Lahore JANG in Urdu 26 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] Chitral — According to reports, the Soviet Union has placed surface-to-air missiles at Murghab airfield near the silk highway. Surface-to-surface missiles had been placed there earlier. The latest-type missiles have been placed there to bring the silk highway under control. During the first week of April a high-ranking Soviet military team arrived from Moscow and visited Murghab airfield by helicopter. The Soviets have also started building a tunnel for a road leading toward the Pakistani border. It may be recalled that the Wakhan corridor borders with Chitral in Pakistan and with Badakhshan in Afghanistan. The Soviets have already stationed a paratroop garrison in Badakhshan.

SRI LANKA

19 'Terrorists', 2 Soldiers Killed in Clash

BK010213 Colombo Overseas Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] A total of 19 terrorists were killed in an encounter with the armed troops in Navatkuli village in northern Sri Lanka yesterday. The national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, told Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation that only two

Army soldiers were killed in this incident. The security forces will continue the search for terrorists in the area.

The minister inspected security arrangements in the north and north central provinces yesterday morning. He talked to the armed troops and expressed satisfaction at the measures taken by them. Lalith Athulathmudali also visited some camps and police stations. He also visited the hospital where wounded soldiers are being treated. When he asked about their welfare, the soldiers replied they had no complaints about the food and medical treatment being provided there. The minister thanked the concerned officials.

AFP: Colombo on Security Alert for May Day
HK010517 Hong Kong AFP in English 0511 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 1 (AFP) — Colombo was on a maximum security alert today with an extra 2,000 policemen on duty and Army troops ready for possible violence by Tamil militants during May Day celebrations, security sources said.

Intelligence reports had indicated that Tamil separatists might explode bombs and seek to cause panic in the city during rallies and musical pageants organised by political parties and trade unions, the sources said.

A Sri Lankan sailor was killed yesterday when a group of separatists fired on a joint Army and Navy unit near Muttur in northeastern Sri Lanka, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said today.

He said that an as yet undetermined number of militants were killed or wounded in the latest clash between security forces and Tamils campaigning for a separate state in the country's north and east. High-ranking security sources said that the joint unit was on its way to a raid on suspected separatists when it ran into an armed group. The sailor's death brought to 22 number of security personnel killed in the last 10 days.

Security sources said that uniformed and plainclothes policemen had been deployed in Colombo today and had appealed to political parties holding rallies to help the authorities maintain order.

Army units stood by to move into vital areas of the city if the need arose, the sources said. But troopers were not deployed in Colombo and security was placed in the hands of the police.

Sources said the explosion of a bomb near Army headquarters on Monday, which damaged a building and shattered the windows of a hotel, was believed to be part of a separatist plan to try to create chaos in Colombo.

In a May Day message today, President Junius Jayewardene pledged to defeat what he called the "terrorist forces" seeking to prevent the growth of a democratic consensus to unify Sri Lanka's various communities.

Meanwhile, Mr Athulathmudali dismissed as totally false a statement by a South Indian-based separatist group that it killed 10 soldiers near Jaffna, the northern capital, on Monday. He said two soldiers and about 15 attackers died in the encoutner.

"This is the usual false propaganda coming from Madras-based groups," he said of the statement by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), one of the militant groups.

No Processions Outside Colombo
BK301155 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] A party of over 2,000 police personnel will control traffic and engage in security work during the May Day celebrations in the city of Colombo tomorrow. The Colombo traffic police will take all precautionary measures to avoid traffic congestion. There will be nine May Day rallies in the city and the neighboring areas this year. Police say that no processions in connection with May Day will be permitted outside Colombo.

The superintendent of traffic police, Colombo, Lusion Weejayekuni, has asked all motorists to avoid using the roads on which May Day processions are scheduled to take place. Many of the roads in the city where processions will march through will be closed during this time. The processions are scheduled to take place from 1300 onwards. Traffic police will decide the closure of roads during the time of the processions.

Khamene'i Opens Seminar of Friday Prayer Leaders

LD302014 Tehran IRNA in English 1722 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — President of the Islamic Republic and leader of Tehran's Friday prayers, 'Ali Khamene'i, today inaugurated the 10th seminar of Friday prayer leaders of Tehran Province.

Addressing the seminar, Khamene'i advised prayer leaders to analyze and inform worshippers in their sermons of the latest news of the Islamic world.

He said the Friday prayers should be used as a forum to keep the masses abreast of world developments. This would protect people from the propaganda attacks of the enemies.

The president added that the role of the contemporary prayer leader should be that of a reporter-analyst, increasing people's political and religious knowledge.

Friday prayer leaders of Firuz Kuh, Varamin and Eyvanekey, Hojjat ol-Eslams Tabataba'i, Mahmoodi and Bata'i, each handed a two million rials (about 20,000 dlrs) check for the war effort, to Khamene'i who is also the head of the Supreme Defence Council.

Majlis Speaker Notes Education Inadequacies

LD011057 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Tuesday [30 April] said the authorities of the Islamic Republic were fully aware of the need for long-term investment in teacher training and for higher education.

Speaking in a seminar held in memory of the martyred Ayatollah Motahari at the teachers training school, he said training of scientific cadres inside the country and abroad must continue, faster then ever.

Rafsanjani noted that government authorities believed that lack of scientists was a serious issue which should have been tackled long ago.

He said there are many cadres of the pre-revolutionary educational system who lack capacity for revolutionary works but have the potential to adopt the new conditions.

"In due time and with due effort they will give their heart to work".

Rafsanjani said a lack of models for teacher training and the lack of experience in the field "had taken away certain opportunities".

Rafsanjani called on educational authorities to attract university professors because, he said, the country needed them greatly.

He expressed the hope that within the next ten to fifteen years a great number of universities will be functioning in the country as to enable students to advance their education.

Musavi-Ardebili on UN Statement Condemning Iraq

LD301239 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] President of the Supreme Court Musavi-Ardebili yesterday met members of mobilization units of government departments, workers of Tehran and the resistant bases of rural and urban sectors. In the course of the meeting, he said: You have already demonstrated that your efforts and strengths are superior to those of the global arrogants, for they were determined to stamp out the revolution at any cost by bombings and firing missiles on cities. However, to defend Islam and the revolution, you protected the revolution by giving even the last drops of your own and your children's blood.

He added: The Zionist Saddam believes that he has the initiative in this war. If this is so, then why is he attacking shipping, threatening passengers, and using chemical bombs? If so, why is he bombing populated areas? Saddam has managed to assemble a group of courtier clerics in Baghdad, claiming he will accept whatever they say. On their part, they then condemn Iran, alleging that this war is not an Islamic one. Knowing this, one ought to ask where these people were when Saddam attacked Khuzestan; where were these people when Saddam could have asked them: Should I launch this attack or not?

Musavi-Ardebili then added: God is our witness. He notices that, while you are subjected to incendiary bombs, you continue to chant the slogan of "War, war till victory." There is no doubt that He will help you.

Continuing his remarks, he said: Until yesterday, the UN used to frown when it heard the very name of Iran. Today, however, it claims that it failed to understand Iranians; that it should try to achieve a better understanding of them. As for the Security Council, which always condemned us, it is saying today that it condemns those who drop chemical bombs on Iranian soldiers. Eventually, however, they will have to actually name Iraq. Moreover, if we are patient enough, they will also name Iraq's master. All this is the result of your resistance.

Concluding his remarks, Musavi-Ardebili said: I have good news for you. The final victory belongs to you members of the mobilization, the corps, the barefooted people, and the Islamic institutions.

Envoy to UN Discusses War, Security Council

LD302146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Following the recent statement by the UN Security Council in connection with the war imposed by Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a telephone interview with a Central News Unit correspondent in Tehran, Rajaie-Khorasani, the permanent Iranian envoy to the United Nations answered questions about the recent developments in the UN Security Council and the political atmosphere after the recent statement by that council. We draw your attention to part of the interview:

[Begin recording][Unidentified correspondent] Do you expect the council to condemn other cases of violations of international regulations and crimes committed by the Iraqi regime in the near future? Do you think that there will be a change in the council's attitude in the future? Do you foresee any frankness?

[Rajaie-Khorasani] I think the council's future attitude depends on various factors that cannot be foreseen. Whether they will deal as decisively with other violations of international regulations by Iraq, we cannot be sure. The second matter was dealt with by one of the international circles, the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO], which issued a resolution forcing Iraq to take the necessary measures to guarantee international flights. That is the second step. But, the prevention of the deployment of chemical weapons is a very important matter. We should not underestimate it. Especially since the recent statement gives the impression that any future use of chemical weapons will be condemned; and that they are prepared to deal with it decisively. The main issue concerning the council is another matter. The council is desperately trying to find a (?reason), so to speak, to deal with the main issue of the war. Coincidentally this is our main objective. But, the council would like to invite us to the council session so that we could raise the issue of the war, and then leave the judgment to the Security Council.

[Unidentified correspondent] The question raised now is that, in its recent statements, especially in its last statement, the council invited Iran to attend the council sessions; but considering the fact that after the onset of war and the silence of the council in the face of the aggression by the Baghdad regime against the Islamic Republic, Iran has questioned the competence of the council. Under what conditions do you think Iran would attend future council sessions, and basically, what conditions would you make for this?

[Rajaie-Khorasani] We would attend present council sessions, but we shall not get involved in the issue of the war with Iraq. We do not accept the council's role as arbitrator in the issue of the war between Iran and Iraq. But, when issues relating to other parts of the world are raised, we would attend. We say: If the Security Council was prepared to condemn Iraq for its aggression against Iran, it would be taking a very big step (?to improve) Iran's relations with the council. So long as this step has not been taken, I do not think that it is appropriate for us to return to the security council. [end recording]

The permanent Iranian envoy to the United Nations said: Most of the Security Council members have understood the innocence of the Islamic Republic in the issue of the war, and are trying to find a way to condemn Iraq as the aggressor.

He added: But for a few known supporters of the Iraqi regime in the council, it would have been able to express the stance it recently took in its statement in favor of Iran in the form of a resolution.

In reply to a question as to what direction the recent developments in the Security Council are going to take, he said: After the facts regarding the deployment of chemical weapons by Iraq were made obvious to international circles, Iran's innocence became an absolute fact. Many people in the Security Council are trying to compensate for the council's past, particualrly regarding the mistakes the council has made about Iran's the past. All statements recently issued usually condemn Iraq for deploying chemical weapons.

He added: The recent statement refers to other cases of violations of international regulations.

Besharati Comments on Meetings at Bandung Forum

LD271955 Tehran IRNA in English 1133 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 26, IRNA — Iranian deputy foreign minister Friday met foreign ministers of Thailand and Malaysia in Bandung and discussed with them bilateral ties and issues of mutual interest.

Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati told the Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, that Thailand, as the future chairman of the United Nations Security Council, had a responsibility in safeguarding the interests of Third World countries.

Besharati said the council had been biased regarding the imposed Iraqi war and had thus encouraged Iraqi aggression on the Islamic Republic. The Thai foreign minister expressed the hope to visit Iran and emphasised on the expansion of bilateral ties.

Besharati is currently taking part in the 30th anniversary of the Asian-African conference that led to the formation of the Non-aligned Movement.

In meeting with Ahmad Rithauddeen, the Malaysian foreign minister, Besharati outlined Iraqi-imposed war and Iran's foreign policy, adding that upgrading of ties with Islamic countries indicated the contents of Iran's foreign policy.

The Malaysian foreign minister expressed the hope to visit Iran "very soon". He stressed on the necessity of expanding ties with Iran. Besharati also met the minister of energy of Bangladesh Anwar Hussain and both sides emphasised on historic and religious ties between the two countries.

Further on Besharati

LD272003 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 27 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — Expansion of ties between the Islamic Republic and Indonesia and other issues of interest were discussed between Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati and Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja in Bandung Friday.

On the last day of his attendance of the Bandung conference, Besharati met with the Indonesian foreign minister and referred to Iraq's crimes, such as the use of chemical weapons and attacks on residential areas. He said the war was imposed on the Islamic Republic and that Iran is not willing for the war to continue. Iran, he noted, needs peace more than any other country, in order to move ahead with development plans.

But with regards to Iraq's adventurism, Iran has been forced to defend itself and this defence would continue until the complete elimination of tension in the region, Besharati added.

The Indonesian foreign minister described the talks as hopeful and thanked Besharati for the information submitted.

Information Ministry To Open 'News Headquarters'

LD011051 Tehran IRNA in English 1037 GMT 1 May 85

[Text] Rasht, May 1, IRNA — The Information Ministry will soon be opening a "news headquarters" for what its minister said was "closer cooperation with the public".

Mohammad Reyshahri also said the work of ministry in its seven months existance in discovering and thwarting anti-revolutionary plots, has been more than expected. Reyshahri is in Rasht to inspect the local general information office.

"Although most of our time has been spent in organizing this dynamic organization but, with God's grace, the output has been more than expected," he said.

Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Criticizes Iraq

LD301958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The Sierra Leone ministers of foreign affairs and trade and industry, who are on a visit to our country in order to inspect the areas damaged by missile attacks launched by the Saddamist regime, were welcomed to Khorramabad this afternoon. After its arrival, the delegation visited the Lorestan governorate-general office where the Khorramabad governor described the crimes perpetrated by the Iraqi regime throughout the imposed war.

The Sierra Leone foreign minister said: Iran's Islamic revolution is the only revolution to have frightened the Eastern and Western powers. That is a fact. It is also true that, although we are geographically at a distance from Iran, nevertheless since the beginning of the victory of this revolution we have felt ourselves coming close to Iran. We shall take back with us the message you have given us regarding the war.

The Sierra Leone foreign minister and the delegation accompanying him then visited the areas in Khorramabad hit by the recent missile attack by the Saddamist regime and the other reconstructed areas.

In an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent on his motives in visiting Khorramabad, the Sierra Leone foreign minister also said: As my government's main spokesman I should be fully aware of the course of events from international conferences, but what I have so far witnessed has opened my eyes even further. With regard to the Iraqi regime's violation of the agreement of 12 June on refraining from raids on population centers he said: That action was against international standards and conventions, since with the weapons currently possessed by various countries, an attack on residential and heavily populated areas with such weapons would result in wiping out large numbers of people. That is why these conventions prohibiting an attack on residential areas have been laid down.

With regard to the Sierra Leone Government's stance on the Iran-Iraq war he said: Our wish, as we have said right from the beginning, is that the war should come to an end. He added: attacking residential areas and rendering Iran's airspace unsafe for civilian airliners does not at all constitute a step toward bringing about peace, and are entirely unlawful. Therefore, we condemn such steps.

The Sierra Leone foreign minister, with regard to finding practical ways to deal with Iraqi's Zionist regime apart from condemning that regime's inhuman acts which run counter to international regulations and conventions, said: I think that apart from condemning such deeds certain limitations and boycotts should be imposed on Iraq until it refrains from such actions. The UN, which is one of the prime organizations safeguarding world peace, should adopt such measures and in that case the work of persons who come to mediate would become simpler.

With regard to statements issued by the Security Council and other international forums not directly condemning Iraq, he said: The issue of the Iran-Iraq war is discussed in detail in international quarters. I myself have taken part in a great many conferences and the issue of the Iran-Iraq war has always been discussed, but what is lacking is a positive step; and this positive step is essential so that we could do something whereby Iraq would give up its unlawful acts.

Jallud Reaffirms Libyan Support for War Stance

LD300735 Tehran IRNA in English 0712 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Libya's Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud Monday reiterated his country's support for the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance in the Iraqi-imposed war and announced that Libya will stand, with all its possibility, beside the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

Speaking in a meeting with Iran's political deputy at the Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, who is currently visiting Libya, the Libyan official pointed to U.S. plots against revolutionary countries.

He lauded the revolutionary spirit of the Iranians, adding that Iran has forcefully resisted U.S. conspiracies and was struggling against it.

Major Jallud stressed that Libya, as a Muslim revolutionary country, believing in the rightfulness of the struggles of progressive Muslims in confronting imperialism, will constantly support them with all its possibilities. In reply Sheykh ol-Eslam appreciated Libya's stance and emphasised the existing alliance between the two countries.

The two sides later discussed recent developments in the region.

Charge in Kuwait Meets Assembly Officials

GF301600 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 16 Apr 85 p 2

[Text] Salih al-Fadallah, deputy speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, yesterday met with the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait. While praising the Iranian Islamic Revolution, he said: The Arab countries of the Persian Gulf region should respect the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and the Islamic Republic of Iran should show its good will toward this position.

In this meeting the Iranian charge d'affaires, while underlining reciprocal steps and noninterference in the domestic affairs of countries by the Islamic Republic of Iran, asked the deputy speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly to try to improve relations between the two countries.

According to reports, the Iranian charge d'affaires also called on Ahmad al-Sa'dun, the speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, and held talks and exchanged views with him on topics of mutual interest.

Kuwaiti Government Deports 120 Iranian Residents

GF301554 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government, in continuation of its hostile activity against the Islamic Republic of Iran, within the past few days has expelled 120 Iranians who were residing in that country.

According to the Central News Unit, these persons entered the country through the Persian Gulf maritime borders and arrived at the port of Genaveh.

Their property and belongings were confiscated by the Kuwaiti Government and some of them had spent between 1 and 2 years in jail.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique 30 April

LD301534 Tehran IRNA in English 1526 GMT 30 Apr 85

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants Monday paralysed Iraqi troop movements in all war fronts through the heavy bombardment of their positions, said the Joint Staff Command today.

An indeterminate number of enemy troops were killed or wounded in the bombardment of Iraqi positions, supply routes and military columns. Also enemy guns were silenced in Sardasht, Marivan, Ilam and Bakhtaran fronts, it said.

The bombardment which halted a motorized column were reported to be heaviest in Halaleh.

The command said enemy patrols in Hajj 'Umran fled after an unsuccessful attempt to infiltrate Iranian positions. The Muslim combatants fired at Iraqi helicopters on reconnaissance missions in Mehran and Chazzabeh, forcing them to flee the area.

Iraqi engineers reconstructing bunkers in Hoseyniyeh, north west of the port of Khorramshahr, also came under Iranian fire and had to halt their activity.

On the shores of Arvand River three enemy bunkers were destroyed by Iranian fire.

Free Voice of Iran on Antiregime Demonstrations

GF291711 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The antiregime demonstrations continue in various parts of our country. Ten thousand people marched in Mashhad in opposition to the regime of mullahs. The demonstrations of the people of Mashhad became bloody when the guards arrived. As a result of the clashes with the regime's guards, 50 people were wounded altogether.

During 2 different demonstrations in the city of Mashhad, people demanded the release of 83 previously arrested during antiregime demonstrations. A total of 120 people from both sides have so far been wounded in Mashhad.

Sirens Used To Stop Antiwar Demonstrations

GF300742 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Today, like other days during the past week, we have received reports about the continuation of antiwar demonstrations in Tehran and other cities of our country. It has been said that the breaking of the sound barrier by Iraqi planes 3 nights ago over Tehran and Esfahan was connected to the same demonstrations against the war.

It must be noted that the Voice of the Islamic Republic announced that Iraqi fighters had broken the sound barrier over Tehran and Esfahan, and as soon as the air defense units began operations they were forced to flee Iranian air space.

This announcement was immediately denied by Radio Baghdad. The speaker for the Iraqi Army denied any knowledge of such an operation.

In Iran, residents of Tehran and Esfahan did not confrim the breaking of the sound barrier by the fighters, saying they were surprised to hear the sound of anti-aircraft guns and the alert warning siren.

According to our reporters, this scenario was prepared in connection with the antiwar demonstrations which took place the same day in southern Tehran, Tajrish, Narmak, and Karj. These demonstrations continued for a long time.

As the guards and the armed members of the mobilization units were unable to stop it, the rulers of the regime ordered the firing of anti-aircraft guns and the sounding of the alert sirens as an excuse for the possible danger of an air raid by Iraq, so that the people would go to the shelters, and naturally the demonstrations would stop.

Radio Nejat-e Iran on Clashes Between People, Guards
GF300626 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian
1630 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] A number of armed guards driving in a Guards Corps truck were disarmed by the angry residents of Narmak. As a result of this incident, bloody clashes took place between people and regime officials. It is interesting that the local police officials refrained from intervening in this event.